



## BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY

ASSOCIATED UNIVERSITIES, INC., UPTON, L.I., N.Y. 11973

## PASO ROUTING SLIP

SAFETY &amp; ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

MAY 3 1976

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April 28, 1976

REPOSITORY *DOE/PASO*  
 COLLECTION *DOE/NV*  
 BOX No. *1228 "ERDA #3"*  
*310-MEQ, Dr. Conard*  
 FOLDER *01 Thru 12/1976*

Mr. W. J. Stanley, Director  
 Pacific Area Support Office  
 U.S. Energy Research and Development  
 Administration  
 P.O. Box 29939  
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96820

SEND COPY TO:

H&amp;N

ON-SITE PEP.

OTHER

REMARKS:

Dear Bill:

The April 1976 Radiological Survey at Bikini was a qualified success. The following trip report describes the achievements of this survey, and identifies some of the difficulties encountered by our team on this expedition.

The survey team assembled in Honolulu during the week of March 29, and proceeded to Kwajalein via MAC on Friday, April 2. Our gear, which had been shipped in advance, had arrived in good condition. Ted Murawski had arranged for Lt. Col. Joseph Hayden of KMR to accompany us, and Col. Hayden's assistance proved quite valuable in light of the time constraints which developed later. The entire party proceeded to Eneu Island via C-54 charter on Sunday, April 4. The pilot flew around Bikini Atoll, making several passes over Nam Island for aerial phototraphs. However, the Polaroid photographs were of little value because of the poor camera angle. At Eneu we crossed paths with Dr. Conard's entourage which returned to Kwajalein that same day.

## Eneu Island

All work described in the protocol was accomplished by early afternoon on April 4. The Liktanur then transported our party to Bikini Island, arriving about 1700 hr.

## Bikini Island

Catchment water and sediment samples, along with "house dust" samples, were collected on April 5. These samples should prove valuable in shedding some light on the source(s) of plutonium intake by the resident Bikini population. There is considerable concern at present over the positive plutonium findings by USERDA, HASL in a pooled urine sample collected at Bikini in September 1975 by the BNL Medical Team.

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The remaining work at Bikini Island which was described in the protocol was completed by Tuesday afternoon, April 6. The LCU then proceeded to Nam Island, but encountered fuel shortage and anchor cable fouling problems en route. The immediate concerns were taken care of, and we continued to Nam, arriving at about 1600 hr.

#### Name Island

An advance team went ashore via Boston Whaler on the lee side of Nam Island on Tuesday evening. A good landing point for the boat and gear was found in a sheltered embayment, and beach landmarks were located which indicated the starting points for the two transects across the island. Contiguous clearings near the lagoon beach hinted that much of the terrain would be easy to cross. The 1975 aerial photographs by EG & G were helpful in identifying our routes.

Two north-south transects were established from the lagoon beach on Wednesday, April 7; however, extremely dense vegetation was encountered on both transects at about 200 meters north of the beach. Shortages of time (resulting from the LCU fuel shortage) and human energy forced us to terminate the east and west transects, respectively, at 200 and 245 meters due north. Within these constraints all of the work described in the survey protocol was accomplished.

The Liktañur proceeded to Bikini Island at 1100 hr on Thursday, April 8 to pick up fuel which had been negotiated through T.T.; then departed for Kwajalein at 1600. We arrived Kwajalein on April 10 and proceeded to Honolulu with the environmental samples on Monday, April 12.

A high priority has been placed on sample analyses related to the "plutonium problem", and we expect that these data and the analyses of our field measurements will be most helpful in shedding light on areas of our greatest concern for the returning Bikini people.

My sincere thanks to you and Kris Morris, and to Ted Murawski and the Captain and crew of the Liktañur, and all of the other PASO, Global Associates and Holmes & Narver personnel who worked so tirelessly in our behalf. I am looking forward to your continued support.

Sincerely yours,



N. A. Greenhouse

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cc: C. B. Meinhold

T. F. McCraw, ERDA-DOS

bcc: R. A. Conard

J. Naidu

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